Finding Aid for the Harry Scotidas Second World War correspondence collection 2016.122.w.r

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URL: http://www1.chapman.edu/library/archives/
Language of Material: English
Contributing Institution: Center for American War Letters Archives
Title: Harry Scotidas Second World War correspondence
Identifier/Call Number: 2016.122.w.r
Physical Description: .75 Linear Feet (1.5 document boxes; 19 folders)
Date (inclusive): 1940-01-17-1946-04-17
Language of Material: This collection contains letters written in English and Greek.
Abstract: This collection contains letters correspondence written to Air Force Sgt. Harry Scotidas and Mary Mantos by family and friends during the Second World War.

Leatherby Libraries, Special Collections, CAWL Archives

Content Description
This collection contains correspondence written to Air Force Private Harry Scotidas and Mary Mantos by family, friends, and fellow soldiers. The letters are dated between 1940 and 1946. Most of the letters are written in English, although there are some letters written in the Greek alphabet, namely from Harry's mother. In 1940, Scotidas was stationed in Hawaii (then an American territory) in Hickam Field in the Air Corps, as part of the 17th Air Base Squadron. In 1941, he was transferred to 4th Reconnaissance Squadron still on Hickam Field and he was promoted to Private First Class in the latter part of 1941. By April 1942, Scotidas was promoted to Sergeant and he was transferred to the 394th Bomb Squadron based in San Francisco, California by July 1942.

Conditions Governing Access
This collection is open for research.

Conditions Governing Use
There are no restrictions on the use of this material except where previously copyrighted material is concerned. It is the responsibility of the researcher to obtain all permissions.

Preferred Citation

Immediate Source of Acquisition
Gift of Silverman [first name unknown]

Arrangement
This collection is arranged in three series by recipient in chronological order. Series 1: Correspondence to Harry Scotidas -- Series 2: Correspondence to Mary Mantos -- Series 3: Correspondence to Sgt. Harry, Mary, and Thomas Scotidas

Subjects and Indexing Terms
World War, 1939-1945
World War, 1939-1945 -- Homefront
United States -- Air Force.
Correspondence -- World War, 1939-1945
World War, 1939-1945 -- Hawaii
Scotidas, Harry
Series 1. Correspondence to Harry Scotidas 1940-01-17-1942-12-26

Scope and Contents
This series contains correspondence written to Harry Scotidas by his mother, brothers Chris and George Scotidas, sister Alice Scotidas, Vince Ryan, Anne Pisils, Karl Dorzbach Jr., Josephine De Simone, Louis De Meis, Helen Benuid nee Reiman, Joseph (Joe) Ryan, PVT. Irving Littman, Gringer, Madeline De Palma, Donald, an unidentified family, Mary Mantos, Catherine V. Le Roy, Paul, Albert, Larry, Pvt. James Ryan, and Maria.

All of Mother Scotidas' letters were written in Greek, implying she was an Greek immigrant and probably felt more comfortable writing in her native language than English.

Frequent topics discussed in these letters were questions about Hawaii, asking for Scotidas' photographs (he appeared to be a talented amateur photographer), and talking about the family store business along with other civilian events like weddings.

Series 2. Correspondence to Mary Mantos 1941-07-31-1944-08-23

Scope and Contents
This collection contains correspondence written to Mary Mantos by Sgt. Tom M. Patrick and PVT. Nicholas Ferri. Patrick was in the Air Force and he attended the Technical School for the Army Air Force Technical Training Command at Gulport Field, Mississippi. He frequently signed his letter as "Tommy" or "Pat." Mary worked as Nicholas Ferri's secretary at an office where he was the boss. One letter was written on American Red Cross paper, indicating Ferri was hospitalized at some point due to war injuries. Ferri and Mary spoke occasionally on the phone when time permitted. Ferri also made some mentions of a Tommy in a couple of letters, and since a Tom Patrick wrote to Mary too, it is likely he and Ferri were friends or knew each other close enough.

Series 3. Correspondence to Sgt. Harry, Mary, and Thomas Scotidas 1945-03-31-1946-04-17

Scope and Contents
This collection contains one handwritten letter in Greek to Harry and Mary Scotidas and one Easter card addressed to their infant son, Thomas Scotidas